

EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Parents Newsletter



Special points of interest:

Important Dates.

2nd Nov. - School Careers Eve.
8th Nov. - S1 Parents Evening
17th & 18th Nov. S5 Skills for Work (Mock Interviews)
23rd Nov.—P7 Open Evening
28th Nov. S4 Prelims begin
6th Dec—Art Exhibition
12th Dec. Christmas Concert
15th Dec—Junior Dance
17th Dec. Senior Dance
21st Dec. - School Closes 2.30
5th Jan - School reopens 8.45
12th Jan - S5/6 Parents Evening
18th Jan- S2 Parents Evening
30th Jan - S5/6 Prelims begin
1st Feb - S4 Parents Evening
10th Feb - Inservice day
13th, 14th & 15th Feb - Holidays

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October 2016

Dear Parent

As autumn turns into winter can I remind parents and pupils that school scarves and hats are available as part of school uniform and are on sale from the school office priced £13.50 for the scarves and £7 for the knitted hats.



There is also a splendid new "Russian Style" fur hat for boys and girls priced £12.50 that will be on sale from 7th November.

November is a key month for all senior pupils S4- S6 as we approach prelims and coursework deadlines. For Higher pupils November can be a make or break month in pursuit of their SQA results. It is the only full month in the school year with no holidays and it falls at a crucial time in the courses, about 40% of the way through. To support pupils there is an extensive supported study programme running (details on the website) and the importance of consolidating what has been learned in class at home i.e. through putting in past paper practice, has been stressed to all senior pupils. It is important that S5/6 pupils use November to change things they currently can't do into things they can - this can only be achieved by talking with their teachers about what they need sorted out. All of the above also holds true for **S4 but with much greater urgency**. As this Newsletter is issued there are only 19 school days left before the prelims begin. The hard graft and revision must start now if it has not already started. As the school motto says "We Flourish through Hard Work", pupils must not leave things too late.

S Maxwell

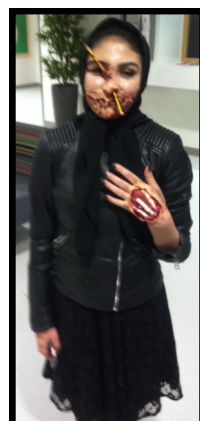
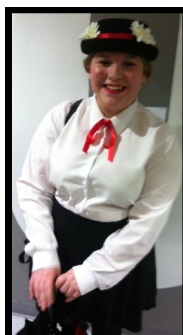
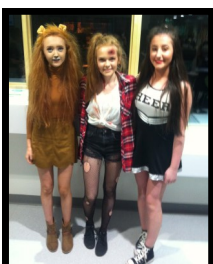
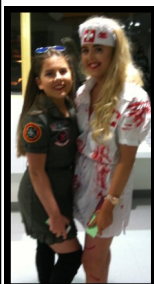
Kelvingrove Art Winners

Congratulations go to Rebecca Lister and Hannah Shields (Both S4) who collected their bronze medals this month at a ceremony in Glasgow. They won their medals for their entries in the prestigious Kelvingrove Art Competition. Cameron Percy (S3) also achieved a "commended" for his entry.



Halloween Ball

One of the highlights of the school social calendar took place on Tuesday 25th of October - the senior pupils' Charity Halloween Costume Ball. As ever the costumes were fantastic and in some cases genuinely scary! A total of £853.15 was raised for East Renfrewshire Good Causes



Behind Bars

As part of their Higher RMPS course 20 S6 pupils visited HMP Polmont on the 6th of October. This was to enhance their learning of the justice landscape in Scotland - an element of the Crime and Punishment unit of their Higher course. Fortunately no one was left behind! The class were delighted to meet with Eric Murch, The Director of Operations for the Scottish Prisons Service, a former Eastwood High School pupil.



Orchestral Manoeuvres

On the 30th of September 26 Higher and Advanced Higher Music students enjoyed a visit to the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall to witness a performance of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. The concert showcased Gabriel Prokofiev's concerto for turntables and orchestra and featured DJ mr Switch! The visit was organised to assist the pupils with understanding the concept of "fusion" as well as targeting the listening element of the Music exams.



Up for Election

S2 pupils have been sampling election fever as part of their Modern Studies classes. This is preparation for the first appearance of Modern Studies next year in S3/4 SQA courses. The parties had to champion two party policies and two new school policies. The pupils successfully created campaign slogans, leaflets, posters, cakes! and made speeches. The pupils then held a secret ballot to ascertain the winners of the election.



Scottish Careers Fair

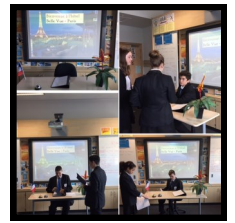
On Wednesday 26th October 48 senior pupils attended the Scottish Careers Fair held at the SECC in Glasgow. The exhibitors included employers from all over the UK as well as Skills Development Scotland. The pupils all found the morning a very useful experience having been able to speak with representatives from their preferred career paths.



Modern Languages on the Move

It has been a very busy month for students of French and Spanish in the school. The Modern Languages Department has been developing work relating French and Spanish more directly to real life situations. Firstly Mrs Kendall's class have been role playing scenes set in a Parisian 5* hotel including booking, reception duties and restaurant situations.

In Spanish S4 pupils from Miss Paterson and Mrs Cameron's National 5 classes visited the Glasgow Film Theatre to see "La Novia" a film based on Lorca's "Bodas de Sangre" (Blood Wedding). This was part of the Spanish Film Festival for schools. The visit was designed to enhance pupils' listening skills for their forthcoming Prelim. Finally on the 27th of October 42 S2 Spanish pupils enjoyed an authentic Spanish Tapas lunch at "La Boca" Spanish restaurant in Glasgow as part of their Food & Drink unit. The pupils had to engage with the Spanish staff and order their food and drinks in Spanish.



Junior Prefects

Congratulations to the new Junior Prefects who received their badges of office in a ceremony at the start of October. These pupils were chosen based on the number of staff nominations they achieved and this reflects the positive contribution to the school and they will serve for the remainder of this session. S1 Junior Prefects will be selected around Christmas time.



New Computing Ambassador Starts Eastwood

David Benicek, from the Czech Republic, is a 4th Computer Science and Business student at the University of Glasgow. He also works part-time as a software engineer for Skyscanner. He'll be at Eastwood mostly on Monday afternoons as part of the STEM Ambassador programme and helping with some computing science classes. If you see him around, say hello and feel free to ask about life at university, the computer science industry and related careers or life in the Czech Republic.



Creative Writers

The Creative Writing Club is celebrating its most recent published authors. Ayesha Khan (S3), Abigail Watson (S3) and David Cameron (S1) are to have their work published in an upcoming poetry anthology called "Summertime Rhymes". Ayesha is also to be published in a collection of stories celebrating future authors of the UK. The Creative Writing Club's first StorySLAM took place this month with members reading their best pieces to a packed audience. Go to the school website and follow the StorySLAM link to hear the best of Eastwood's writing talent.



Pokemon Found in Eastwood

Mr Armitage's 1.6 Geography class used "Pokemon Go" this month to help learn about the local area and further develop map reading skills. The class researched local sites such as Patterton Tower, Capelrig House, The Greenlaw Horse Sculpture and Mearns War Memorial whilst locating "Pokestops". The class then created a giant map of "Pokestops" in the local area and added Eastwood High to the map as a "Pokemon Gym".



Sports News

On 10th October Eastwood High School's largest ever team of athletes travelled to Helix Park in Falkirk to take part in the Scottish School's Team Road Race. There were many notable performances but particular mention should go to Helen Chong (S2) who placed 7th in a field of over 180 competitors, in the S1/2 girls category. This helped the S1/2 girls team to finish overall 5th narrowly missing out on a bronze medal. There were also notable performances from Clare Wallace (S3) 15th and Zoe Jamieson (S4) 53rd in the S3/4 girls race and Jamie Sturrock (S6) 13th in the senior Boys race - This race was way beyond Jamie's normal distance. Well done to all the team members.

Also some shock athletics news. During the October holiday Mr Carr competed in the Lincoln half marathon. He finished 29th out of over 2300 runners in a time of 1 hour 24 minutes and 34 seconds.

Well done Sir !

In weightlifting S1 pupil David Cameron came first in his age and weight class in the recent Development Cup competition. David lifted 20 kg for Snatch and this was flawless. He also lifted 27 kg for Clean and Jerk which too was flawless.

Congratulations also go to Leigh Edgar (S3) who secured a silver medal at the Scottish Tae Kwon Do Championships. This is even more remarkable because she competed in the 14 - 17 age group on the day of her 14th birthday!

On the 30th of September Eastwood High School Ski Teams competed in the Scottish Schools Dual Slalom Series regional heats held at Bellahouston Ski Centre. In the red category Ben Hodgeson (S4), Adam Inglis (S2), Caitlin Rae (S4) and Ellie Marshall (S4) skied well but just finished outside the medals. However the blue category team of Caitlin Parry (S3), Lucas Parry (S2), Cameron Rae (S1) and Charlie Barber (S1) came out winners of their group after a ski-off. That qualified them for the Scottish Dual Slalom Ski finals held at SOAR, Intu Braehead on 27th October where they came a very creditable 4th .

In early October Naomi Chin (S1) came first overall in the age 12-13 Scottish Gymnastics Celebration of Life event held in Cumbernauld. Naomi then followed this up at the Scottish Gymnastics Levels event in Perth with a second overall incorporating a second on the beam and 3rd on the floor.

Finally October has been a very busy month the various Eastwood HS football teams. The S1 team played well in a 6-3 defeat away to Woodfarm HS. Eastwood were twice in the lead but were pegged back before Woodfarm put in the stronger finish. On 27th of October the S2 team suffered a heartbreaking loss in their Scottish Cup second round tie away against Cathkin HS. It was a very close match ending 2-2 at full time (Adam Inglis & Callum McNaughton scoring). Despite Steven Collingham saving a penalty the team went out losing the shoot out 4-3. There was better news from our senior team who beat Mearns Castle HS 4-1 away in fixture that doubled up as a league and Gibson Cup fixture. This was the team's first away win at Mearns Castle in 4 years with goals from Ryan Dougela (2), Kyle Taylor and Duncan Brash. Congratulations also go to Scott Johnston and Calvin McGrory (both S6) on being selected for the Renfrewshire District senior select winning 2-0 against Glasgow and 4-1 against Dumfries and Galloway. The team have now qualified from their section to compete in the next round of the Scottish District Shield.

